

H.R.—

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF TOLL FREE NUMBER PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Commerce shall establish a toll free number program to help inform consumers whether a product is made in America or the equivalent thereof. The Secretary shall publish the toll-free number by notice in the Federal Register.

(b) CONTRACT.—The Secretary of Commerce shall enter into a contract for—

(1) the establishment and operation of the toll free number pilot program provided for in subsection (a), and

(2) the registration of products pursuant to regulations issued under section 2, which shall be funded entirely from fees collected under section 2(b).

(c) USE.—The toll free number shall be used solely to inform consumers as to whether products are registered under section 2 as made in America or the equivalent thereof. Consumers shall also be informed that registration of a product does not mean—

(1) that the product is endorsed or approved by the Government,

(2) that the Secretary has conducted any investigation to confirm that the product is a product which meets the definition of made in America or the equivalent thereof, or

(3) that the product contains 100 percent United States content.

SEC. 2. REGISTRATION.

(a) PROPOSED REGULATION.—The Secretary of Commerce shall promulgate a regulation—

(1) to establish a procedure under which the manufacturer of a product may voluntarily register such product as complying with the definition of a product made in America or the equivalent thereof and have such product included in the information available through the toll free number established under section 1(a);

(2) to establish, assess, and collect a fee to cover all the costs (including start-up costs) of registering products and including registered products in information provided under the toll-free number; and

(3) for the establishment under section 1(a) of the toll-free number pilot program.

(b) REGISTRATION FEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Manufacturers of products included in information provided under section 1 shall be subject to a fee imposed by the Secretary of Commerce to pay the cost of registering products and including them in information provided under subsection (a).

(2) AMOUNT.—The amount of fees imposed under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) in the case of a manufacturer, not be greater than the cost of registering the manufacturer's product and providing product information directly attributable to such manufacturer, and

(B) in the case of the total amount of fees, not be greater than the total amount appropriated to the Secretary of Commerce for salaries and expenses directly attributable to registration of manufacturers and having products included in the information provided under section 1(a).

(3) CREDITING AND AVAILABILITY OF FEES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Fees collected for a fiscal year pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be credited to the appropriation account for salaries and expenses of the Secretary of Commerce and shall be available in accordance with appropriation Acts until expended without fiscal year limitation.

(B) COLLECTIONS AND APPROPRIATION ACTS.—The fees imposed under paragraph (1)—

(i) shall be collected in each fiscal year in an amount equal to the amount specified in appropriation Acts for such fiscal year, and

(ii) shall only be collected and available for the costs described in paragraph (2).

SEC. 3. PENALTY.

Any manufacturer of a product who knowingly registers a product under section 2 which is not made in America or the equivalent thereof—

(1) shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$7500 which the Secretary of Commerce may assess and collect, and

(2) shall not offer such product for purchase by the Federal Government.

SEC. 4. DEFINITION.

For purposes of this Act:

(1) The term "made in America or the equivalent thereof" means—

(A) an unmanufactured end product mined or produced in the United States; or

(B) an end product manufactured in the United States if the value of its components mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States equals 90 percent or more of the total value of all of its components.

(2) The term "product" means a product with a retail value of at least \$250.

SEC. 5. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act or in any regulation promulgated under section 2 shall be construed to alter, amend, modify, or otherwise affect in any way, the Federal Trade Commission Act or the opinions, decisions, and rules of the Federal Trade Commission under such Act regarding the use of the term "made in America or the equivalent thereof" in labels on products introduced, delivered for introduction, sold, advertised, or offered for sale in commerce.

A TRIBUTE TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE WEST SUBURBAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S ANNUAL AWARDS

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 1997

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute today to five individuals and one organization for their outstanding contributions in making my district a better place to live and work. Their efforts are also being recognized by the West Suburban Chamber of Commerce, which will honor them at its 95th annual awards dinner February 8, 1997.

The Chamber's Citizen of the Year is Hon. Timothy Hansen, who serves as the village president of LaGrange, IL. I have had the pleasure to work with President Hansen on solving a number of challenges facing his community, and I can say that his recognition is well-deserved. Mr. Hansen has served the community since 1981, including 4 years as its president and 4 years as a member of the board of trustees. His even-handed management style and willingness to let all sides be heard on important issues has made President Hansen well-respected throughout his community.

The Chamber's Man of the Year is Mr. William F. Hendrickson, the retired president of Hendrickson Manufacturing. Throughout his life, Mr. Hendrickson has been dedicated to improving both the business and civic climate of his community, serving on the boards of important businesses and charitable organizations. Some of the groups he has devoted his

time and energies including the Rich Port YMCA, the Plymouth Place retirement community and the Chicago Youth Center.

Ms. Cynthia Breunlin is being honored as the Chamber's Woman of the Year. Ms. Breunlin, the executive director of the West Cook Development Corp., has been involved with numerous community groups, including the NAACP and the Community Diversity organization in LaGrange. Ms. Breunlin, a former schoolteacher, has been honored for her community work by the Girl Scouts, Triton Junior College and School District 102. She is a recipient of the prestigious Medgar Evers Award from the NAACP.

Mr. David Bennett, executive director of the West Central Municipal Conference [WCMC], is the chamber's Public Servant of the Year. At the WCMC, Mr. Bennett has worked to bring often diverse suburban Chicago communities together to solve common problems. Mr. Bennett not only works for these communities, he makes his home in the area as well. He is active in his church, St. John of the Cross in Western Springs, IL, as well as the American Heart Association.

Mr. Robert Breen, is being recognized for Outstanding Community Service by an Individual. This award is especially appropriate as the name "Breen" is synonymous with public service in his community. He and his family have been the driving force behind the annual Pet Parade, a trademark event in LaGrange where the community comes together for a day of fun and creativity for all ages. Mr. Breen, who also helps manage his family's extensive dry-cleaning business, is also a recognized leader in the fabricare industry, as well as his local business community.

The Chamber's Outstanding Community Organization this year is the LaGrange Community Nurse and Service Association, which is celebrating 75 years of service. While LaGrange Community Nurse and Service Association provides a wide array of health care services, the main focus is supplying primary care for low-income families who do not have insurance. The association also provides food for families in emergency situations and clothing and toys for needy children at Christmas.

Mr. Speaker, I salute these five outstanding individuals and one great organization on their good work, and give them my best wishes for continued success in serving the people of their community in the future.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM H. "BILL" WEBER

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 1997

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Mr. William H. "Bill" Weber, a resident of my congressional district, who has been named the "citizen of the year" by the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce. It is my privilege to call this outstanding community leader my friend.

Mr. Weber, a lifelong resident of St. Charles, MO, has distinguished himself with a lifelong commitment to volunteerism. He has championed numerous causes with his vision and energy. Mr. Weber has been the driving force behind the funding of numerous projects,